

ABSTRACT

A vacuum operated device for locating and retrieving small hard-to-see articles that have been dropped or lost within an area of known limits. By vacuum cleaning the entire area, the retrieval device will capture and entrap all items of a predetermined size or greater, but prevent them from passing through to the vacuum cleaning system's debris collection bag or reservoir. At the same time, smaller dust and dirt particles are allowed to pass through freely. The recovered articles are trapped within a small, transparent jar like chamber, where they are readily observed, and from which they are easily ejected without the need to disassemble the device. Large dirt and debris particles which also accumulate within the chamber are purged by simply switching the device to the appropriate operating position.